(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to sort out the shortage, in view of day-by-day increasing demand of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Electricity is a concurrent subject. The supply and distribution of electricity in a State/UT is within the purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utility. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by establishing power plants in the Central Sector through Central Public Sector Undertakings.

(b) and (c) A grid-interactive power generation installed capacity of 13,615 MW from various renewable energy sources (mainly wind, small hydro, biomass and solar energy) has been set up as on 30.11.2008. This corresponds to about 8 per cent of our total power generation installed capacity from all sources.

(d) and (e) The Government has several programmes to generate power from renewable sources of energy throughout the country including rural areas. Under these programmes, a mix of fiscal and financial incentives which include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, nil/concessional excise and customs duties. Further benefit under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 is available to undertakings setup for the generation or generation and distribution of Renewable power in India. This apart, preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power is being given in most potential States.

(f) Various steps taken being taken to improve overall availability of power in the country include addition of generation capacity, development of Ultra Mega Power Projects, harnessing surplus captive power into the grid, strengthening and improving of sub-transmission system in States, promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures, and strengthening of inter-state and inter-regional transmission capacity.

Biomass resources for power generation

2253. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 70-75 per cent of biomass resources in the country are used as fodder as fuel for domestic cooking, and for other economic purposes, leaving 120-150 million tonnes of usable agro-industrial and agricultural residues per year, which could be used for power generation;

(b) if so, the details of power projects working and under implementation, based on usable agro-industrial and agricultural residues; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the availability of biomass for power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) It is estimated that about 120-150 million tones of agro-industrial and agricultural residues per year would be available as surplus which could be used for power generation.

(b) A total installed capacity of 1650 MW through 199 projects based on biomass combustion and bagasse cogeneration have been installed and additional 170 projects of aggregate capacity of 1970 MW are under implementation in the country as on 30.09.2008. Besides, 30 biomass cogeneration (non-bagasse) projects aggregating to 136 MWeq and 105 biomass gasifier systems aggregating to 32 MWeq have been installed in various industries for meeting their captive energy requirements, both heat and power. In addition, 18 biomass cogeneration (non-bagasse) projects aggregating to 27 MW and 25 biomass gasifier systems aggregating to 10 MWeq are under installation.

(c) While the Ministry has no scheme to increase the availability of biomass for power generation, a project on "Biomass Resource Map of India" has been taken up with a view to estimate the potential of biomass resources for power generation integrating the distribution and availability of biomass in the country accrued from agriculture land, wastelands, shrub lands and forest land.

Incentives to renewable energy producers

2254. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to offer incentives to renewable energy producers, like buy back of power at Minimum Support Price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) The Electricity Act 2003, the National Electricity Policy 2005 and Tariff Policy 2006 already have the provision for preferential tariffs for renewable power, considering that it will take some time before renewable energy technologies can compete with conventional sources in terms of cost of electricity. However, the fixation of the minimum level these tariffs is the prerogative of the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs)/State Governments.

Several other fiscal and financial incentives being provided for renewable power producers include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, nil/concessional excise and customs duties. Benefit under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 is also available to undertakings setup for the generation or generation and distribution of Renewable power in India.

(c) Does not arise.

Power generated by renewable energy sources

2255. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of power generated by renewable energy sources in the country, State-wise;